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By JOHN TROTT-PLAID, *Esq*;

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Nihil eſt, Antipho,
Quin male narrando poſſit depravarier.
Ter. Phorm.

IT is impoſſible for a Miniſter, or for a Man, ſo to conduct his Ways, as effectually to ſilence all the Clamours of Envy and Malice; ſince theſe Vices, like the green-eyed Monſter Jealouſy, in *Shakeſpear*, *can make the Meat they feed on.*

As no Miniſters ſince *Adam* have, I believe, given leſs Food to theſe malignant Paſſions in their Enemies than the preſent, ſo never did this creative Art in their Enemies exert itſelf in more ample manner; inſomuch that four or five Writers (who ſeem otherwiſe not to have very fertile Inventions) have, by this alone, been able to ſupport themſelves for ſeveral Months together.

To ſay the Truth, this, which I have called the Art of Creation, ſhould rather perhaps be ſtiled the Art of Perverſion, or Miſrepreſentation; for I would not allow to theſe Writers a Power which many of the Antients were unwilling to attribute to the Supreme Being, of making Something out of Nothing; but they can ſo magnify or diminiſh, ſo change, pervert, and miſrepreſent whatever they undertake, that when it comes from their Hands, it ſeems no very hard Expreſſion to call it the Work of their own Creation.

A very ſingular Inſtance of this, and one indeed ſcarce to be parallell'd, we have had in the late Conteſt between the Towns of *Buckingham* and *Ayleſbury*. In this Inſtance, an Affair of very little Conſequence hath been repreſented as of the utmoſt Importance to the Nation; a Matter, of which there have been a hundred Examples, hath been called unprecedented; an innocent and ſtrictly legal Meaſure, hath been ſtigmatized with the opprobrious Term of an arbitrary Job; nay, hath been inſinuated to be an actual Infringement of the Royal Prerogative: And laſtly, the Behaviour of an Hon. Gentleman on this Occaſion, while he acted by all the Rules of Juſtice and Honour, hath been attack'd, traduced, and even attempted to be ridiculed.

And that this is the Caſe will appear in the moſt inconteſtable Manner to all thoſe, who, after having read the Miſrepreſentations of this Matter, ſhall conſider it in the following plain and ſimple Light.

The CASE.

NOtwithſtanding the many Miſrepreſentations that have been employ'd againſt this Bill, the following plain Facts will ſufficiently ſhew to any impartial Perſon, that it is, in every reſpect, highly juſt and reaſonable, and calculated to prevent the Adminiſtration of publick Juſtice from being made ſubſervient to private Purpoſes.

The Town of *Buckingham*, from whence the County of that Name was denominated, is the Place where formerly all the Buſineſs of the County was tranſacted for many Ages together, without any Inconvenience, or Complaint, that appears; and continued ſo, until, by the Partiality of Lord Chief Juſtice *Baldwin*, who purchaſed the Manor of *Ayleſbury* towards the End of the Reign of *Henry* VIII. Part of it was, for his private Advantage, removed by him from *Buckingham* to *Ayleſbury*.

The County-Gaol was at the Caſtle of *Buckingham*, as appears by many Books and Records, till that Caſtle went to Decay.

By the 11th *H.* VII. *c.* 4. intitled, The Names of the Cities and Towns limited for the keeping of Weights and Meaſures, amongſt all the other County Towns aſſigned for that Purpoſe, *Buckingham* is aſſigned for the County of *Buckingham:* Which is a Proof, that the Parliament conſidered it as the County Town, at that Time.

By the 6th *R.* II. *c.* 5. the Aſſizes are directed to be holden in the principal Towns where the Shire-Courts were holden.

From what has been ſhewn before, there can be no Doubt, but that the principal Town of *Buckinghamſhire* was, at that Time, the Town of *Buckingham.*

By the 11th *R.* II. *c.* 11. reciting the former Act, it is provided, That the Chancellor of *England* for the Time being, ſhall have Power thereof, to make and provide Remedy, by Advice of the Juſtices, *from Time to Time, when Need ſhall be*, notwithſtanding the former Act. This Act does not repeal the former Act, but only provides a Remedy *from Time to Time, when Need ſhall be*; which muſt be underſtood of extraordinary Caſes, which are likewiſe provided againſt in the Bill now propoſed. It is plain this was the Opinion of Lord Chief Juſtice *Hale*, who, in his Pleas of the Crown, treating of this Subject, quotes the 6th *R.* II. *c.* 5. as being in full Force; but diſtinguiſhes it by ſaying, That it is *directive* to the Judges, and not *coercive.*

By the 14th *H.* VI. reciting the Act of the 6th *R.* II. *c.* 5. for holding the Aſſizes in the principal Towns of every County, as being in Force, and that the ſame Statute ought to be obſerved and kept, the Aſſizes for the County of *Cumberland* are therefore directed to be holden at *Carliſle*, the principal Town of that County: Nor was this *occaſioned by the Situation and Strength of that Place*, from the Apprehenſions of a neighbouring Enemy, as is ſuggeſted in the printed Caſe againſt this Bill; for it is expreſly provided by the Act itſelf, That this Regulation is only to take place *in Time of Peace, and of Truce.*

By the 1ſt *Eliz.* the Aſſizes for *Staffordſhire* are directed to be holden at the County-Town of *Stafford:* And there are *a Multitude of Inſtances*, on the Journals of the Houſe of Commons, in almoſt every Reign, of Bills for fixing the Aſſizes at particular Towns.

June 3, 1614, a Bill was brought in, for fixing the Summer-Aſſizes at this very Town of *Buckingham*; but the Bill was loſt by the ſudden Diſſolution of that Parliament, Four Days afterwards.

By all theſe Examples, it appears how little Truth there is in the Aſſertion, That this Power of the Judges, of transferring the Aſſizes from one Town to another, at their Pleaſure, *has been exerciſed for Four hundred Years, without any Complaint.*

In *Prynn*'s Obſervations on the Fourth Inſtitute, there are many Inſtances given of Patents for fixing the Aſſizes and Shire-Courts at the Extremity of their ſeveral Counties; particularly one to *Launceſton*, at the very Extremity of the County of *Cornwall*, which continued in Force till the Firſt of his late Majeſty, when a Power was given to the Chancellor, with the Advice of the Judges, to appoint the Aſſizes at any convenient Place in *Cornwall:* But notwithſtanding this, the Aſſizes were ſtill holden at *Launceſton* till a few Years ago, when a Bill paſs'd the Houſe of Commons for fixing the Summer-Aſſizes at *Bodmyn*; and tho' that Bill was afterwards dropt, yet the Aſſizes have ever ſince been holden alternately at *Bodmyn* and *Launceſton*; which is all that is contended for in the preſent Caſe, with regard to *Buckingham* and *Aylesbury.*

In the firſt printed Caſe againſt this Bill, it appears by the Gazettes, That from the Year 1666 to 1720, the Summer Aſſizes had been holden 25 times at *Ayleſbury*, 21 times at *Buckingham*, and 9 times at *Wicomb.* From the Year 1720 to 1747, which is 26 Years, it is admitted, That they have been always holden at *Buckingham.* So that, in the 81 Years, from 1666 to 1747, the Summer Aſſizes were holden 47 times at *Buckingham*, 25 times at *Ayleſbury*, and 9 times at *Wicomb:* And yet this Bill to fix them, according to an uninterrupted Uſage of 26 Years, and the Uſage of the far greater Number of Times for 81 Years backwards, is treated as an extraordinary Act of Violence and Oppreſſion upon this County, tho' there never was, during that long Period, any one public Complaint, or Remonſtrance, of the County, or even of the Town of *Ayleſbury*, againſt it.

The Town of *Buckingham had not the Happineſs of having any Judges in their Neighbourhood* till 1722 or 1723, and have now been deprived of that Advantage for ſeveral Years laſt paſt: So that it may be reaſonably preſumed, if the Judges who went that Circuit before, and thoſe who have ſo frequently gone it ſince, had thought this a grievous and oppreſſive Act upon the whole County, that they would not, for the Sake of any particular Borough, have continued in the Practice of it for ſuch a great Number of Years; nor would the County itſelf have acquieſced under it, without the leaſt Complaint, if they had felt thoſe heavy Inconveniencies which have been ſo fully and ſo induſtriouſly diſplayed.

The great Arguments made uſe of againſt this Bill, are drawn, Firſt, from the Inconveniency and Situation of the Town of *Buckingham*; and, Secondly, from the County-Gaol being lately built at *Aylesbury.*

Buckingham is, in every reſpect, as good a Town, and very near as large, as *Aylesbury.* It has more in Number, and larger Inns, for the Reception of thoſe who attend the Aſſizes, than *Aylesbury* has. The Town-Hall, where the Courts of Juſtice are holden, is a large Building; and both the Civil and Criminal Courts are better, and more convenient, than in any of the other Counties upon the ſame Circuit, except *Norfolk* and *Suffolk.* The Judges and the Counſel have never complained of their Reception or Uſage there; on the contrary, 'tis well known, that they have frequently declared, that they are more commodiouſly lodged and accommodated, in all reſpects, at *Buckingham* than at *Ayleſbury.*

The County of *Buckingham* is, in Length, from South to North, near 60 meaſured Miles; and, in Breadth, from Eaſt to Weſt, in general, about 10 or 12 Miles. From *Uxbridge*, which lies pretty near the Southern Extremity of the County, to *Ayleſbury*, is 18 computed, and 27 meaſured Miles; from *Ayleſbury* to *Buckingham*, going Northward, is 12 computed, and 17 meaſured Miles; and from *Buckingham* to a little beyond *Olney*, which is near the Northern Extremity of the County, is 14

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puted, and 21 meaſured Miles. As to the Breadth of the County from Eaſt to Weſt, it is as broad at *Buckingham* as at *Aleſbury*, or at any other Part; and tho' it is true, that *Buckingham* lies within Three or Four Miles of *Oxfordſhire* and *Northamptonſhire*, to the Weſt and North-weſt, it is equally true, that *Ayleſbury* lies within Four or Five Miles of *Hertfordſhire*, to the Eaſt and South-eaſt. By this State of the Situation of that County, and by looking into the Map, and appealing to thoſe who live in it, for the Truth of it, it will appear how falſe and groundleſs the Inſinuation is, upon which the great Oppoſition to this Bill is founded; to wit, that *Buckingham* lies in the extreme Corner of the County; tho', if that were true, the having one of the Aſſizes there, is no more than is practiſed in many other Counties, in the like Circumſtances; particularly in *Norfolk* and *Berkſhire*, where the Aſſizes are alternately holden at *Norwich* and *Thetford*; and at *Reading* and *Abingdon*; tho' both *Thetford* and *Abingdon* are at the utmoſt Extremity of their reſpective Counties, which is likewiſe the Caſe of *Launceſton*, as has been mentioned before; and in thoſe Counties where both the Aſſizes are fixed by conſtant Uſage at one Place, the greater Part of them are far from being in the Middle of their ſeveral Counties, and a great many of them much leſs ſo than *Buckingham:* The Truth of which will appear to any-body who will examine what the Aſſize-Towns are, and look into the Maps for their Situation.

As it ſtands by the Bill now propoſed, *Ayleſbury* is left in Poſſeſſion of the Winter Aſſizes, and of the Four Quarter Seſſions; ſo that the Inhabitants of that Part of the County which lies South of *Ayleſbury* have the Adminiſtration of publick Juſtice diſtributed to them Five times at *Ayleſbury*, and the Inhabitants of that Part of the County which lies North of *Buckingham*, have it once at *Buckingham*. Surely this is a very reaſonable Requeſt; eſpecially when every Perſon acquainted with that County muſt own, tho' the Diſtance is leſs, that it is a harder Day's Journey from the Northern Extremity of the County *in Winter* to *Ayleſbury*, than from the Southern Extremity of the County *in Summer* to *Buckingham*.

It is true that the Goal was begun at *Aleſbury*, by a Rate made at the Quarter Seſſions there, and levied contrary to Law upon the County; but this was completed no longer ago than the Year 1736; till which Time, it appears by the Petition for the Bill then paſſed, that there was no County-Goal at *Ayleſbury*. The Town of *Buckingham* was then, and continued for 10 Years after, in the uninterrupted Poſſeſſion of the Summer Aſſizes, without the leaſt Application from the County then, or at any time afterwards, to alter them; nor was it ever imagined, at the time that their Conſent to this Act was applied for, out of Compaſſion to the poor Workmen who had been employed in that Work without any legal Authority, and who could not otherwiſe have been paid, that this friendly Compliance would have been made uſe of as an Argument for taking away the Summer Aſſizes, which they had ſo long enjoyed.

It has been induſtriouſly reported upon this Occaſion, that the County is to be charged with raiſing a conſiderable Sum for building a new Goal at *Buckingham:* But this is a direct Falſhood, ſince 'tis well known, that the Town of *Buckingham* has always had a Goal of their own, which is now actually beginning to be rebuilt, without raiſing One Shilling upon the County for that Purpoſe. It has been ſaid likewiſe, that the County is put to a Charge in carrying the Priſoners to *Buckingham:* But this is a Miſtake; for it is allowed to the Sheriff at the Exchequer, and is not defrayed by the County; and this Expence, which has been ſo ſtrongly inſiſted upon, amounts by the Accounts in the Exchequer to a Demand of 10*l.* and to an Allowance 5*l.* a Year, and no more. The Circumſtance of the Aſſizes not being holden at the ſame Place where the County-Goal is eſtabliſhed is not peculiar to this County, but is in common with a great many others; particularly *Surry*, *Norfolk*, *Kent*, *Berkſhire*, *Cornwall*, and *Somerſet*; and conſequently ought no more to be urged as a Reaſon in this Caſe, than it is in thoſe.

It has been ſaid, that the Prerogative of the Crown is concerned in this Queſtion; and that the King has the Power of appointing the Places for holding the Aſſizes: But it is plain, from the Acts of the 6th and 11th of *R.* II. that the Crown has diveſted itſelf of this Power by Law; and that the Aſſizes are fixed in the principal Towns, except in caſes of Need; when, by the latter Act, the Chancellor with the Advice of the Judges had a Power to provide a Remedy. It was not reckoned an Invaſion upon the Prerogative of the Crown in the Time of Queen *Elizabeth*, when the Act for ſettling the Aſſizes at *Stafford* was paſſed; and it will not be ſaid, that the Prerogative was not as high then as it is now.

By the 7th and 8th *W.* III. *c.* 25. it is provided, That the County-Courts for the Election of Knights of the Shire ſhall be holden where the ſame have *moſt uſually been for* 40 *Years laſt paſt*. This Act was occaſioned by the Removal of the County-Courts, for the Purpoſes of Elections; of which there was an Inſtance in *Buckinghamſhire*, where the County-Court was removed at the Time of the Election from *Ayleſbury* to *Newport*, in Favour of Mr. *Hackett*, who, in the Parliament of *James* II. was a Candidate for this County againſt Mr. *Wharton:* And there was an Inſtance of the ſame Kind a few Years after, in the County of *Surry*. It will not be denied, that the County-Court is the King's Court, and holden by his Officer as much as the Aſſizes are by the Judges; and the Prerogative of the Crown is as much concerned in the one as the other: Notwithſtanding which, it was thought proper to fix them where they had been moſt uſually holden, without conſidering whether they were in the Middle of their Counties, or in all other Particulars the moſt convenient Places, and without apprehending a Monopoly; tho' all theſe Arguments muſt certainly hold much ſtronger in Caſes of publick County-Elections, than in the Caſe of the Aſſizes. How does this materially differ from the preſent Purpoſe? In this inſtance, the Summer Aſſizes were removed, in the very Week of the Elections, from the antient County-Town, *where they had been moſt uſually holden for more than* 40 *Years*; that is to ſay, for the greateſt part of Eighty-one Years laſt-paſt, as appears by the Admiſſion of the printed Reaſons againſt this Bill. They were altered without the leaſt Colour of Complaint, or application from the County for whoſe ſake it is pretended this Bill is oppoſed. But whatever Reaſons may be now aſſigned, the World will judge, under theſe Circumſtances, whether they ought to have been changed; and conſequently, whether the reſtoring them is not an Act of Juſtice, and not of *private Favour againſt publick Utility*.

This Bill has been repreſented as a Hardſhip upon the County *for the ſake of a particular Borough*. What the Sentiments of the County are about it has been ſhewn by the Petitions to the Houſe of Commons for and againſt it; by which it appears, that the greater Part of the Property in the County, with near 1500 Freeholders, have deſired that this Bill may paſs in order to fix the Adminiſtration of Juſtice in this County for the future in its uſual Channel, and to prevent the Aſſizes from being removed from one Borough-Town to another at Pleaſure.

Thus far the Caſe.

Now will any unprejudiced, or ingenuous Man ſay, that it did not become the Members of the Town of *Buckingham*, or any one Member of *Buckinghamſhire*, or Gentleman of that County, to ſupport the Town in a Cauſe of this kind; in which, beſide any Pretenſion to Favour, they ſeem to have ſo clear a Claim of Right, that we may at leaſt ſuppoſe any impartial Perſon would incline to their Side?

To ſpeak out honeſtly and plainly, Can thoſe Gentlemen who have an Intereſt in the Town of *Buckingham* be blamed for taking Part in ſuch a Cauſe, or for making it their own? Who is there who will lay his Hand upon his Heart, and declare he would not, in the like Circumſtances, have done the ſame? Nay, might not not even a Caſuiſt have cenſured him if he had acted otherwiſe?

Now what muſt that Man be, who ſitting in an Aſſembly where the Cauſe of his Friend is try'd, refuſes him his Vote, I will add his Intereſt, when Juſtice demands it? To ſupport a Friend in a very doubtful Caſe, is, I believe, no uncommon Act of Friendſhip; nor doth it, in truth, deſerve a very harſh Appellation; but to deſert his Cauſe, when he is manifeſtly in the Right; to forſake not only your Friend, but Truth and Juſtice at the ſame Time, and this from the paultry Fear of the malicious Slander of his Enemies, would argue a very pitiful Mind indeed.

The good Man will love his Friend; the Man of Honour will adhere to Juſtice; and the Man of Spirit will exert himſelf in Support of both. Let therefore the Caſe under our Conſideration be, for once, of the utmoſt Importance, by being made the Teſt of all theſe Qualities in a very Honourable Gentleman, and he will be found in this Inſtance, as in all others, to have maintained the Dignity of his high Station, and of his higher Character.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

THO' Maeſtricht and Luxemburgh, by the laſt Mail, ſeem both threatned by the Motions of the French, yet 'tis thought impracticable for them at the ſame Time to undertake two Sieges of ſuch Importance. 'Tis moſt probable, that they will content themſelves with a feign'd Deſign only on one of thoſe Places, in order to cauſe the Allies to divide their Forces on the Side of Breda, or to take any other Step from which the French Generals might reap Advantage for the Execution of their Plan of Operations. G. A.

Private Letters by the laſt Mail ſay, that 50,000 French were in full March to force the Intrenchments of the Allies; ſo that the News of an Engagement is very ſoon expected. ib.

From the London Gazette.

Dreſden, April 3, *N. S.* Two Ruſſian Regiments paſſed thro' Mezeritz in the Palatinate of Podlachia (which lies between Cracow and Warſaw) on the 23d of laſt Month, and the other Regiments follow very faſt; ſo that it is ſuppoſed, that the firſt Column will paſs the Viſtula at Pulawy before the Thaw can prevent their going over the Ice.

Liege, April 3, *N. S.* The Garriſon of Namur, conſiſting of 11 Battalions, Beauffremont Dragoons, and 100 Cannoniers, marched out the 1ſt Inſtant, and took the direct Road leading to Luxemburg; they were to be joined by the Garriſon of Givet, and ſome other Troops; they had 15 Pieces of Cannon, and 10 Carts of Ammunition with them. The Allies advanced Poſt went to reconnoitre, and found a Body of about 300 of the French at Great Modane. The Deſerters ſay, they are to be canton'd in the Villages about Chinay, till they are joined by more Troops, and then they will form a Camp of 20,000 at Chinay. The Count d'Etrees marched with a Corps of 12,000 Men towards Weſtmael the 1ſt Inſtant, and is to be at Tongres the 6th, where he will be joined by more Troops.

Hague, April 5. *N. S.* The States of Holland are chiefly employed in ſettling the Affairs of the Finances. A Scheme is talked of, for making a third Lottery upon the Plan of the two firſt, for the ſame Sum of 4,300,000 Florins, which is likewiſe to be drawn within the Courſe of this preſent Year.

Breda, April 8. *N. S.* This Morning his Royal Highneſs the Duke of Cumberland arrived here, and propoſes to continue his Journey to Roermonde Tomorrow, and to join a Part of the Troops there, on Wedneſday Noon at fartheſt; where General Ligonier will alſo arrive the ſame Day.

Tueſday arrived a Mail from Holland.

Liſbon, March 9. Several Foreign Gazettes have mention'd, as if from hence, that Madam de la Bourdenaye was here: But ſhe is not yet arrived, tho' ſhe is expected by the next Fleet from Braſil. We judge from ſome Circumſtances, that ſhe will be arreſted immediately upon her Arrival, in conſequence of certain Orders come to the French and Spaniſh Conſul. G. A.

Madrid, March 18. M. de las Minas is ſtill here, and it is again thought very uncertain whether he will have the Command this Campaign, of which the King will not determine till the Return of a Courier from the French Court. ib.

Savona, March 18. The Engliſh have taken four French Levant Men upon the Coaſt of Barbary, laden with Corn and other Proviſions. ib.

Leghorn, March 22. The 17th Inſtant an Engliſh Tranſport from London, laden with 7000 Sacks of Corn, blew up by the Careleſſneſs of ſome Sailors; but the Crew were all ſaved. ib.

Florence, March 23. The French are ſtill ſaid to have abandoned Maſſa and Lavenza, after having carried off the Artillery, which they promiſe to reſtore at the Concluſion of a Peace. Their Commandant in Sarzana has cauſed Proclamation to be made, that whoever has not wherewith to ſubſiſt may retire, as the Auſtrians ſeem determined to attack the Place. The Fief of Marquis John Anthony Spinola, who has been ſome Time retired to Lucca, has been ſtripped by the French of the Bells and Sacred Plate in all the Churches. ib.

Aix-la-Chapelle, April 7. Mr. Legge, appointed Envoy Extraordinary from the King of Great Britain to the King of Pruſſia, arrived here the 4th Inſtant, and alighted at Lord Sandwich's. He propoſes to ſtay 7 or 8 Days. On the 5th Lord Sandwich made another Entertainment for the Miniſters that are here, and in the Evening Count Chavannes waited on the French Ambaſſador. On the 6th Lord Sandwich, Mr. Legge, and Count Bentinck went a hunting, and in the Evening Count Chavannes waited again on the French Ambaſſador. This Day Lord Sandwich, after diſpatching a Courier to his Court, dined with the Dutch Miniſters. ib.

Herve, April 7. Marſhal Saxe arrived laſt Night at Tongres. ib.

Paris, April 5. The King will not nominate his ſecond and third Plenipotentiary to the Congreſs of Aix-la-Chapelle, till after the Preliminaries are ſigned. His Majeſty's Equipage are ſet out for Bruſſels the 30th, and his Majeſty will ſoon follow. 'Tis abſolutely ſettled that the Dauphin ſhall not make the Campaign. We are aſſured, that the Count de Clermont, Prince, is nominated Generaliſſimo of the King's Armies, to command all the Marſhals of France, in caſe any Accident ſhould happen to M. Saxe. A new Declaration has appear'd, concerning the 10th of Prizes made by the Admirals of France, which has been ſuſpended during the preſent War, and the whole Produce given to the Captors. Many Complaints are made with regard to the new Taxes, and the more rigid Methods made Uſe of in collecting thoſe before eſtabliſhed. The Tribunal of Marſhals of France, which uſed to be held at Marſhal Biron's, as the moſt ancient, will now be removed to M. Noailles's, the former having retired. The Marquis de Conflans, Governor of S. Domingo, who is returned from England, where he was Priſoner of War, is preparing to go for his Government. He will have under him 3 Men of War, to eſcort a Fleet of Merchant Ships of 40 Sail bound for St. Domingo. ib.

Liege, April 8. M. Lowendahl, after paſſing the Maeſe, and ſeeming to regulate his March towards Luxemburgh, has turned to the Left; and paſſing the Ourte near Availle, the next News we heard, he was arrived at Verveirs on the 6th, and had taken Poſſeſſion both of that Poſt and the City of Limburgh. Yeſterday and To-day he has ſent Detachments to Dalem, Viſet and Bombay. ib.

Maeſyck, April 9. We have Advice, that the Auſtrian Army is retired from Maeſtricht towards Ruremonde, and that the French have already inveſted the firſt of thoſe Places. ib.

Hague, April 11. This Day the young Prince Stadtholder was baptized with extraordinary Magnificence, by the Name of William. The Rejoicings were very great on this Occaſion. ib.

M. Kleſcher, Syndic of the City of Limburgh, has delivered to their Highneſſes his Letters of Credence, as Miniſter from that City, and has been acknowledged in that Quality. ib.

From the London Gazette.

Hague, April 9. Count Wartenſleben ſets out To-morrow for Bonne, with final Inſtructions relating to the Negociation ſo long depending, for a Body of the Elector of Cologne's Troops. He is likewiſe to negociate for another Battalion with the Margrave of Baden Baden. The States General have appointed M. Van Haren the elder Brother, their Deputy to attend upon his Royal Highneſs the Duke, in order to facilitate the Operations of the Campaign, as far as the Power of their High Mightineſſes can extend. The Council of War have given their Opinion to the Prince of Orange, concerning the Behaviour of M. Van Etchten, late Governor of Menin; in Conſequence of which he is to be broke, and declar'd incapable of ever ſerving in any Military Capacity. M. de la Calmette is nominated Reſident to the Proteſtant Cantons.

The Court of Criticiſm is adjourned to Thurſday next, when ſeveral remarkable Trials are expected to come on.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Saturday, April 2.

We hear that the Payment of the Subſcription to the Loan for 1748, will be put off by Authority for two Months, viz. the Payment which was to have been made on the 22d of April, to the 22d of October; and the Payment which was to have been made on the 25th of May, to the 24th of November, the Intereſt from Michaelmas to the Times of actual Payment to be allow'd by the Proprietor, at the Rate of 4 l. per Cent. per Annum. W. E.

Yeſterday ſeveral Pieces of Skulls, with Bones, Part of Mr. Eldridge's Family, that were burnt at the late Fire in Exchange-Alley, were found in the Ruins of the ſaid Houſe. ib.

Laſt Night, between Seven and Eight o'Clock, the Fire broke out afreſh at Cole's Coffee-Houſe in Birchin-Lane; but by timely Aſſiſtance of the Engine from St. Edmund the King, and the Firemen, it was ſoon happily got under. ib.

Thurſday the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, attended with the two Sheriffs, went to Newgate to examine the Keeper, with the ſeveral Turnkeys, relating to the Eſcape of the Smugglers laſt Wedneſday Night, when the noted William Gray, and Thomas Kenip, got quite off; the other five were ſoon retaken. ib.

A Sloop of War is ordered to be got ready with all poſſible Expedition, which will ſail with ſome Diſpatches of Importance to the Governors of his Majeſty's Dominions in the Weſt-Indies. ib.

Extract of a Letter from Goſport, March 31.

'On Monday Morning arrived at Spithead his Ma-
'jeſty's Ship the Invincible. She has been 250 Leagues
'to the Weſtward of the Land's End, and has met
'with very bad Weather, having ſprung her Foremaſt,
'and loſt her Foretopmaſt.' ib.

Monday, April 4.

Yeſterday the Right Hon. the Marquis of Hartington and his new married Lady, were introduced to their Royal Highneſſes the Prince and Princeſs of Wales. G. A.

The ſame Day the Earl of Dalkeith and his Counteſs ſet out for Scotland. ib.

The Right Hon. the Lords of the Admiralty have appointed the Hon. John Hamilton, Eſq; to be Commander of his Majeſty's Ship the Vanguard of 60 Guns. ib.

A few Days ſince died the Hon. and Rev. Mr. Wandeſford, (Brother to the Right Hon. the Lord Caſtlecomer) Rector of Kirklington and Catterick, and one of his Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace for Yorkſhire. He has left 12000 l. to be divided between the Rev. Mr. Du. Pont, Vicar of Aiſgarth, and two of his Curates; alſo 1500 l. to a near Relation at Weſtminſter. ib. ——*The above two Sums ſeem to be tranſpoſed into each other's Places.*

Admiralty-Office, April 1. On the 29th paſt his Majeſty's Sloop the Falcon, commanded by Capt. Saumarez, arrived in Plymouth-Sound. He gives an Account, that Capt. Harriſon, Commander of his Majeſty's Ship the Monmouth, took on the 21ſt of March laſt the Roſlan, a French Privateer of 22 Guns and 270 Men, belonging to Bourdeaux; but that before Capt. Harriſon had ſhifted all the Priſoners, the Privateer ſunk with about nine of his own Men, and 100 French; the Lizard then bearing N. E. Diſtance 120 Leagues. Gazette.

Admiralty-Office, April 1. Capt. Wellard, Commander of his Majeſty's Ship the Haſtings, on the 26th paſt, being near the Dogger-Bank, took the Suſanna, a French Privateer Snow belonging to Calais, of eight Carriage and twelve Swivel Guns, and ſixty Men, and brought her into Tinmouth. ib.

Tueſday, April 5.

Yeſterday Morning an Expreſs arrived from Plymouth, brought there by the Inverneſs Man of War, from Commodore Coates, with Advice, That being on a Cruize with four Men of War, he fell in with the Spaniſh Outward-bound Fleet from Cadiz, off Cape Cantin on the Coaſt of Barbary, conſiſting of nine Men of War and 27 Merchant Ships; that he had the good Fortune in the Night to get between three of the Regiſter Ships bound to Vera Cruz, and their Convoy, and took them; as alſo two ſmaller Ships bound to Carthagena.——Farther Particulars are hourly expected. G. A.

Yeſterday Morning the Earl of Loudon ſet out for Flanders, in order to take upon him the Command of his Regiment there. ib.

The ſame Day the Right Hon. the Earl of Traquair ſet out for Scotland. ib.

Yeſterday Sophia Fitſummons, Anne Saunders, and Margaret Hill, were committed to Newgate by Thomas Burdus, Eſq; for aſſaulting Mr. Edward Worman, in a Houſe in *Drum-Alley*, Drury-Lane, putting him in Fear of his Life, and robbing him of a Silver Watch, and other Things, his Property. ib ——*I ſuppoſe, by the Name of this Alley, all the Ladies there keep* DRUMS.

Divers Bakers were convicted laſt Week, before the ſaid Gentleman, for ſelling ſhort Weight. ib.——*It is to be hoped they will receive full Weight from the Hands of Juſtice.*

The Picture of the late inimitable *Griffin* and *Johnſon*, painted by Mr. Van Bleeck, of Covent Garden, in the Characters of Tribulation and Ananias, ſo much eſteem'd for the Likeneſs of Features and lively Repreſentation of the Attitudes, in that celebrated Play of the Alchymiſt, has lately been taken off in Metzotinto; is now publiſh'd, and may be had at his Lodgings.

Whitehall, April 5. The King has been pleaſed to grant unto Edward Crane, Doctor of Laws, the Place and Dignity of Canon or Prebendary of the Collegiate Church of St. Peter Weſtminſter, void by the Reſignation of Dr. John Hume. Gazette.

Admiralty Office, April 4. Capt. Coates, Commander of his Majeſty's Ship the Edinburgh, of 70 Guns, having been ſent to Sea with the ſaid Ship, together with his Majeſty's Ships the Eagle, the Windſor, and the Princeſs Louiſa, of 60 Guns each, and the Inverneſs of 24 Guns, in order to join Sir Edward Hawke, has ſent the Inverneſs to England with the following Advice: That on the 7th ult. being in his Station off of Cape Cantin, looking out for Sir Edward Hawke, he fell in with a Fleet of the following Spaniſh Ships, viz.

	Guns.		
El Sobvervio	74	Brillante	64
Leon	74	La Paſtora	64
Colorado	70	El Roſario	60
Oriente	64	Xavier	54
		La Galgo	54

Having under their Convoy about 27 Merchant Ships, with which they ſailed from Cadiz four Days before; that the Men of War drew into a Line to receive him; not being ſtrong enough to attack them, he endeavour'd to cut off as many of the Ships under their Convoy as he could, and accordingly five of them were taken; three being Regiſter Ships bound to Vera Cruz, and the other two bound to Carthagena. That the Spaniſh Men of War continued to lay to in a Line, and did not endeavour to retake the ſaid Ships; and Captain Coates obſerving that the Ships under their Convoy ſteered away to the Weſtward, ſcatter'd, and in Confuſion, as ſoon as it was dark he detach'd the Eagle and Windſor, both very good Sailors, to purſue them, and endeavour to cut off any which ſeparated from the Men of War. Ibid.

It is ſaid a Bill will be brought into one of the Houſes of Parliament, for the better Obſervation of the Lord's Day, by obliging all Manner of Perſons to repair either to Church or Meeting, and attend Divine Service once at leaſt on that Day, except kept away by apparent Neceſſity. The Miniſters, Church-Wardens, and other Officers of each Pariſh; and in large Pariſhes, ſome few of the ſubſtantial Inhabitants, beſides alſo the Teachers, and Elders or Heads of each ſeparate Congregation, will be empowered, and even compelled, to be inſtrumental in carrying this Law into Execution. The Forfeits to be paid by Houſe-keepers for themſelves and thoſe in Family; when Servants offend, their Maſters to reimburſe themſelves out of their Wages. When Penſion Poor offend, the Overſeers to do the ſame out of their Penſions. W. E. *It is to be hoped, that ſuch a Bill may have ſome Tendency to reſtore the Chriſtian Religion.*

Sunday Morning early ſome Gentlemen having Words with the Soldiers at St. James's Gate, one of them fired his Piece at them, and was immediately ſecured and ſent Priſoner to the Savoy. ib.

A Dutch Man of War and five Merchantmen from Curaſoe and Surinam arrived off Dover on Friday laſt. ib.

Laſt Saturday Night there was near 2000 l. contributed towards the Loſs ſuſtained by the Sufferers at the late Fire in Cornhill; which is ſo far from being wholly extinguiſhed, that Engines are obliged to play continually on the Ruins, for the Preſervation of the Houſes adjoining. ib. *No Nation ever abounded more with Charity, in this Senſe, than the Engliſh; and that we have ſo little of Charity in the Senſe of* CANDOUR,

is owing to the many malevolent Writings with which the Preſs ſwarms.

We hear that 20,000 l. is allowed the Commiſſioners for the finiſhing Weſtminſter Bridge; and that a double Number of Workmen are ordered to expedite the ſame. ib.

Yeſterday the Right Hon. Lady Peterſham was ſafely brought to bed of a Daughter. ib.

The Tranſports being arrived, we hear the next Embarkation will be in a few Days, which is to conſiſt of 2000 Foot, and 1000 Horſe for remounting the Cavalry. ib

By a Letter from Newcaſtle we have an Account, that Leighton's and Skelton's Regiments were embarked for Flanders, that they were in good Health, and quite compleat. ib.

His Majeſty has been pleaſed to appoint Capt. George Wade, Eſq; Son to the late General Wade, to be a Major in the third Regiment of Guards; and Arthur Croft, Eſq; to be a Captain in the ſame Regiment, ib.

We are aſſured, that —— Heighdegger, Eſq; Maſter of the Opera Houſe in the Haymarket, has generouſly ſent a Hundred Pounds to the Poor Sufferers by the late Fire. ib.

This Morning, and not before, came the agreeable News, that his Majeſty's Ships the Dunkirk, Jamaica Sloop, with the Britannia, Saliſbury, and Marlborough, from Eaſt India, were all ſafe arrived in the Downs from Liſbon. ib.

Wedneſday.

On Monday his Majeſty's Ship the Dunkirk landed at Dover a very large Quantity of Money, which is this Day expected at the Bank. G. A.

We hear that Brigadier General Cholmondeley will ſtand Candidate for the Town of Montgomery, in the room of Henry Herbert, Eſq; deceaſed. ib.

Yeſterday the Right Hon. the Lord Trentham, and his new-married Lady, were introduced to his Majeſty, and met with a moſt gracious Reception. ib.

The Ship of Capt. Thomas Allen is loſt near Cape Sable Shore, the Maſter and ſeven Men drown'd. ib.

Yeſterday the Commiſſioners of Weſtminſter-Bridge iſſued out an Order, that no Perſon ſhall be ſuffered to paſs over the ſaid Bridge on a Sunday, till further Notice. ib.

The Margaret, Wilſon, from London to Mahone, was ſeen the 23d paſt at Sea, by his Majeſty's Ship the Monmouth, Capt. Harriſon, with her Pumps choak'd, and no Perſon on board. Capt. Harriſon ſent ſome of his Men on board her, to endeavour to clear her of the Water, but finding it impracticable, left her in a ſinking Condition. ib.

By Letters from Flushing we hear, that Commodore Matthew Michel, Member of Parliament for Weſtbury in Wiltſhire, is ſet out for the Hague, to take his Leave of the Stadtholder and the States General, on his Return to England. ib.

Canterbury, April 6. Richard Osborne Tylden, B. A. is preſented by his Father, Richard Tylden, Eſq; to the Rectory of Milſted, near Sittingborn, void by the Death of Mr. Batchelor. ib.

And Deodatus Bye, B. A. is preſented by the Rev. Mr. Wheeler, to the Rectory of Otterden, void by the Death of Mr. Simmonds. ib.

Letter from Guernzey, March 30.

'On the 26th Inſtant the Hope Privateer brought in 'here a French Ship of 200 Tons, of 12 Guns, which 'ſhe took after four Hours Engagement. She was 'bound from Nantz to Martinico. G. A.

Thurſday.

Laſt Monday the Haſtings ſent into Tinmouth the Suſannah Snow Privateer of Calais, of 100 Tons, and 60 Men aboard, who were immediately impriſon'd in Tinmouth Gaol. There was a Ranſomer aboard for a Scots Veſſel. On Tueſday Morning the Privateer was ſent to Hull for Sale. G. A.

A few Days ſince died, after a ſhort Illneſs, at his Seat at Tongue in the County of Sutherland in Scotland, the Right Hon. George Mackay Lord Reay, Chief and Head of the brave and antient Clan Mackey. He was a Nobleman of ſingular good Senſe, and uncommon Piety and Goodneſs. He was a ſincere Friend to the Proteſtant Succeſſion, ſtrongly attach'd to his preſent Majeſty and his Family, and particularly diſtinguiſh'd himſelf in the late Unnatural Rebellion. ib.

The Nimble Fiſhwife Privateer of Dunkirk, of 3 Carriage and 4 Swivel Guns, and 31 Men, is taken and brought into Dover, by the Eagle Privateer, Capt. Beazley. ib.

The Bien Amy, Amblare, from Bourdeaux to Canada, is taken and brought into Plymouth by his Majeſty's Ship the Inverneſs, Capt. Mackenzie, who came with the Expreſs from Commodore Coates. ib.

The Right Hon. the Houſe of Lords have adjourned to this Day ſe'nnight. ib.

This being Maundy-Thurſday, the Rev. Dr. Thomas Wilſon, Sub Almoner to his Majeſty, performed the Ceremony, according to annual Cuſtom, of giving away his Majeſty's Bounty, conſiſting of Money, Cloth, Fiſh, &c. to ſixty five decayed elderly Men and Women, being as many as his Majeſty is Years of Age. W. E.

Yeſterday great Numbers of Regiments, &c. marched to Graveſend to embark for Flanders; and Tomorrow Morning ſeveral Officers of Diſtinction will ſet out for Harwich to embark for the Army, a general Action being ſoon expected. ib.

By a Letter from Scotland we have an Account, that by a Liſt of the Claimants for the Juriſdictions in that Kingdom, it appears that the Demand was 454,933 l. but by the Value aſcertained by the Lords of the Seſſions, it is reduced to 152,037. 9s. 7d. ib.

We hear, that the Treaſure, conſiſting of upwards of 400,000 l. on board the Ruſſel Man of War at Liſbon, is divided into ſeveral Ships, for fear of Accidents. ib.

The Gentlemen who fought the Duel at the Opera-houſe, were Mr. B—z—l, and Major J——n; the former of which is very dangerouſly wounded in the Arm. ib.

A few Days ago died near Southampton, Mr. William Waters, late an eminent Picture-Frame-Maker in Pall-Mall; by which he acquired a large Fortune with good Reputation. ib.

On the 3d of March arrived at Madeira the Swallow Sloop of War, Capt. Rowzier, from Liſbon: She was one of Admiral Boſcawen's Squadron, and put into Lisbon to refit, having been much damaged in a Storm, and was ſailed again for the Eaſt-Indies. ib.

Portſmouth, April 6.

On Tueſday his Majeſty's Ships the Tyger, Aſſiſtance, St. Alban's, and the Queenborough, arrived at Spithead from the River; and the ſame Day ſailed out of the Harbour for Spithead, his Majeſty's Ships the Prince Frederick, Hampton-Court, and Saliſbury; the above Ships are all ready for the Sea, and with ſeveral others of the Line, will ſail in a few Days on an Expedition under the Command of Sir Peter Warren and Commodore Moſtyn. ib.

Friday.

There is Advice from Kingſton in Jamaica, that the Spaniſh Galley which was lately taken by Capt. Forreſt, and fitted out there as a Privateer, was arrived from the Southward, and had taken a large Dutch Ship that ſail'd from thence ſome Weeks before, as they pretended, for the Carraccas; but they found her going to La Vera Cruz, with 90 Cheſts of Arms on board. The ſame Privateer had taken a Regiſter Ship, ſaid to be worth 80000 l. and alſo a large Spaniſh Schooner. D. A.

Two French Sloops laden with Sugar, Indigo, &c. and other valuable Effects, are taken by a Privateer of Philadelphia, Capt. Purnell, Commander, and carried into that Place. ib.

The Katherine Privateer of New York, late Perkins, has taken a French Ship near Martinico; ſhe was laden with Shot, Cordage, Beef, &c. from Rochelle, of about 200 Tons Burthen, and is call'd the St. Ann. ib.

Several French Ships have lately been taken by the Duke of Cumberland, Prince of Orange, Defiance, and Lightning Privateers, of Guernſey, and carried in there. ib.

The Arent, Capt. Hayſham, from Newcaſtle and the Orkneys, bound for New York, was in her Paſſage taken by a French Privateer, and ranſomed for 950 l. ib.

The Lords of the Treaſury have appointed Mr. Iæa to be General Surveyor of the Window Lights, in the room of Mr. Underwood, deceaſed. ib.

Yeſterday was held a Court of Aldermen and Common Council at Guildhall, when Mr. Carte attended with the firſt Volume of his Hiſtory of England; and it was moved to withdraw the publick Subſcription of 50 l. per Ann. towards carrying on that Work; which was carried in the Affirmative. ib.

A few Days ſince died the Rev. Dr. Holmes, Dean of Exeter, and Head of St. John's College, Oxford; and we hear he will be ſucceeded in the Deanry by the Rev. Dr. Lyttleton. ib.

Yeſterday Morning died, of an Ulcer in his Bowels, at his Lodgings in Red-Lion-ſtreet, Holborn, Zachary Andrews, Eſq; of Wimble in the County of Cambridge. ib.

On Wedneſday Night the Tragedy of Othello was play'd at the Theatre Royal in Covent Garden to a crowded Audience, for the Relief of the Sufferers by the late dreadful Fire; whereby upwards of 300 l. was raiſed towards the Subſcription ſet on Foot for that Purpoſe. ib.

We have received ſeveral Letters, for which we thank our Correſpondents, and ſhall do them Juſtice as ſoon as poſſible.

BANKRUPTS.

Alexander Williamſon, now or late of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, Barber and Perriwig-maker.

Zachary Marley, late of Ayſlable, in the County of York, Butcher.

Robert Parker, of Ebbiſham, otherwiſe Epſom, in Surry, Brewer.

Stephen Beverly, late of York, Tanner and Brewer.

Roger Hall, of Chiſham in Kent, Shopkeeper and Chapman.

Bank Stock no Price. India Ditto 159 1 half a 60 a 59. South Sea Stock no Price. Ditto Old Annuities per 1 4th. Ditto New 90 1 half a 1 8th. Four Per Cent. Bank Annuities 1746 89 a 88 3 4ths. Ditto 1747 88 7 8ths a 3 4ths. Three per Cent. Annuities 79. Million Bank 99. Equivalent 97. Royal Aſſurance 70 1 half. London Aſſurance no Price. Engliſh Copper 5 l. Seven per Cent. Emperor's Loan no Price. Five per Cent Ditto. no Price. Bank Circulation 3 l. 2 s. 6 d. India Bonds 4 s. a 2 s. Diſc. Three and a half Salt 1745 no Price. Three and a half per Cent. Exchequer Orders no Price. Three per Cent. ditto no Price. Lottery Tickets 10 l. 1 s. Subſcription 1748, 87 a 6 5 8ths a 3 4ths.

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By the ſame AUTHOR.

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